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DRAFT REPORT

Addendum

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PROGRAMME QUESTIONS

Proposed medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001

Programme 13. International Drug Control

1. At its 23rd meeting, on 18 June 1996, the Committee considered programme 13, International drug control, of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001.

Discussion

2. Many delegations expressed their support and agreement with the general orientation and overall strategy of the programme. Some delegations noted the absence of reference to transit countries and the lack of balance regarding those countries together with producer and demand countries.

3. Some delegations expressed the view that an integrated approach to illicit drug trafficking should be undertaken at the subregional, regional and international levels and that cooperation agreements should apply not only at the subregional but also at the regional level. Other delegations emphasized the importance of implementation of legislation based on the conventions on international drug control.

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4. Some delegations emphasized the importance of international cooperation and technical assistance and advice for developing countries, especially on crop substitution programmes in producing countries.

5. Some delegations expressed the view that the causes for the proliferation of illicit drug trafficking and drug abuse enumerated in paragraph 13.1 had not been fully highlighted and were therefore selective.

6. Several delegations expressed the view that use of the terms "eradication of illicit crops" and "elimination of illicit crops" gave rise to inconsistencies. Several delegations noted the absence of the link between drug abuse and poverty and a delegation noted the absence of the link between crime and drugs.

7. Some delegations stressed that more emphasis should be placed on demand reduction. Some delegations noted the coordination efforts between the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) and the Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC) and stressed the need to strengthen cooperation between UNDCP and the regional commissions.

8. Several delegations expressed support for efforts to strengthen national capabilities and institutions, particularly to those Governments that had demonstrated commitment to drug control.

Conclusions and recommendations

9. The Committee recommended approval by the General Assembly of programme 13 of the proposed medium-term plan for the period 1998-2001, with the following modifications:

(a) Paragraph 13.3: In the first sentence, insert the word "accepted" before the word "international";

(b) Paragraph 13.4: Replace the first sentence with the following:

"Drawing from the Fund of the Programme, technical advice and assistance will be provided at the request of Governments in support of efforts at the national level towards a balanced approach to drug abuse control targeting both illicit supply and demand, as well as the situation of the illicit trafficking.";

(c) Paragraph 13.5:

(i) In the first sentence, after the words "to fight drug abuse and" add the words "all aspects of production";

(ii) In the second sentence, replace the words "proven intervention methodologies" with the words "effective methodologies in tackling drug abuse";

(d) Paragraph 13.6 (b): Replace the second sentence with the following:

"Needs and opportunities for multilateral cooperation in drug control at the regional and subregional levels will be identified and concrete cooperation arrangements promoted through advocacy and technical support";

(e) Paragraph 13.7 (c): Insert the words "To support the International Narcotics Control Board" at the beginning of the paragraph;

(f) Paragraph 13.8 (b): In the third sentence, replace the word "and" after the word "development" by a comma, and replace the word "including" with the word "and";

(g) Paragraph 13.8 (c): At the beginning of the paragraph, replace the words "To increase" by the words "To support Governments in increasing";

(h) Paragraph 13.8 (e): At the beginning of the paragraph, replace the words "To increase" with the words "To support Governments in increasing";

(i) Paragraph 13.8 (e): Replace the second sentence with the following:

"To that end, in certain subregions, coordination of bilateral and multilateral technical assistance to combat illicit trafficking of drugs and precursors will be improved, taking into account national priorities and in a continuous dialogue with the competent national authorities."